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TWO LIRE

8th Army 8 Miles South Of Florence; Foe Checks Yanks

Artillery, Mortar Fire Holds Up Doughboys In Pisa Area

ADVANCED ALLIED HEAD-QUARTERS, July 26—Eighth Army troops rolling northward on a 30-mile front below Florence had reached one point eight miles from the south edge of the city today while to the west stepped up enemy artillery and mortar fire continued to check the advance of 5th Army forces holding positions in the southern part of Pisa.

[The German News Agency reported that a "large scale" assault had been launched south of Florence. There was no Allied confirmation of the claim.]

The principal 8th Army thrusts appeared to be moving through the valleys of the Pesa, Greve and Arno Rivers. Farthest point of advance was up the Pesa, westernmost watercourse, where New Zealanders threw their tanks up both sides of Highway 2 to reach positions two miles southwest of San Casciano. This particular area was described as some of the best tank country on the British front.

British troops in the middle route up the Greve River—reached a point just south of Mercatale, ten miles from the Florence outskirts, while in the Arno Valley, to the southeast of Florence, the farthest point of advance was to within about 13 miles of the prize city.

On the 5th Army front, where the struggle for Pisa went into its fourth day yesterday, the Germans not only stepped up their artillery against the Yanks in the lower part of the city lying south of the Arno River, but also increased mortar fire onto points where crossings of the river might be made. Increased use of nebelwerfers, multi-barreled German mortars, was reported all along the 5th front.

Leaning Tower Used By Krauts As OP

By Sgt. AL KOHN

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A CP NEAR PISA, July 26—German troops are using the leaning tower of Pisa as an observation post, advanced infantry and artillery observers reported today, and the possibility was growing hourly that our troops might be forced to shell the historic city.

"I can see four or five Jerries with binoculars in the top part of the tower," Lt. Col. Glen C. Long, Grimes, Oklahoma said in a telephone report from his battalion OP this morning. His eyewitness statement verified descriptions of Germans in the leaning tower by Capt. George S. Bunnell Blairstown, Penn. A field artillery observer, Lt. Edward Bott, Denver, a cannon company observer, Lt. Joseph W. Wessendorf, Richmond, Texas, Capt. Gordon H. Stevens, Hudson, N. Y., a company commander, and Capt. Robert F. Muller, Whitestone, N. Y.

Enemy use of the historic wonder of the ancient world plus indications that many Germans are in Pisa seemed to be bringing near the time when Allied artillery would make another "Cassino monastery" of the great city of the renaissance. "If our reports show that Pisa has become a military objective," said Maj. Arthur Peterson, Minneapolis, in a division military artillery headquarters, "we will fire on it."

Leaving nothing to chance the Yanks were gathering their evidence in the same meticulous manner which they used at Cassino.

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COIFFEUR A LA CHERBOURG



FRENCH GALS accused of submitting to the charms of German officers were rounded up recently, given a hair-do and paraded through the streets of Cherbourg in a truck bearing placards reading: "The collaborators' hearse." (Photo through PWB)

Opposition Mounts In Normandy Battle

Gains up to 3,000 yards on a wide front in the area west of St. Lo in Normandy had been made by American forces up to Wednesday night as the renewed offensive on the western end of the Allied battlefront was in its second day. The Yank push was progressing satisfactorily, according to SHAEF.

British and Canadian troops astride the Caen-Falaise road south of Caen were meeting increasing Nazi opposition from infantry and armored units supported by heavy artillery located on both sides of the Orne River.

At least two Panzer divisions were opposing the British-Canadian drive, according to a SHAEF spokesman and numerous enemy counterattacks were launched throughout the day.

A Reuter's correspondent described the resistance in the Caen sector as "of unprecedented ferocity and pitch which can hardly be surpassed."

British gains, varying from 1,000 yards to a mile on a front extending from the west bank of the Orne to Tilly la Campagne, were being consolidated. The latest front line dispatches indicated that the villages of St. Martin de Fontenay and Verrieres, between the Orne and Tilly la Campagne, were in Allied hands.

Allied Air Forces continued to give powerful support to the ground troops. Many strategic missions were carried out by fighter bombers and medium bombers in direct response to requests from Allied ground force commanders.

In addition to the strategic missions, Allied planes ranged far over France and Germany through Tuesday and Tuesday night in attacks against Nazi industrial targets and other vital objectives.

FDR Will Be Notified Formally Of Nomination

CHICAGO, July 26—Robert E. Hannegan, Democratic National Chairman, said today that President Roosevelt would be notified formally of his renomination by the Democratic national convention when he returns to the White House.

A committee composed of one person from each of the 48 states and the possessions will wait upon the President. Hannegan said the President was on the West Coast when the telegram of convention chairman Senator Samuel Jackson informed him of his renomination.

91 Become U. S. Citizens At Ceremony Near Front

By A Staff Writer

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, July 25 (Delayed)—Ninety men and one nurse became citizens of their adopted land today, having proved better by deeds on and near the field of battle that they would defend the Constitution than by any solemn oath.

The scuffed combat shoes and the sprinkling of Purple Hearts were evidence enough that these new citizens had renounced allegiance to "any foreign prince, potentate or state of sovereignty" and that they had already born "true faith" to the laws of the United States of America.

Fifty-one of the soldiers bore the proud standards of the infantry, and many of them had come out of the Arno River front lines to hear the oath of citizenship administered by Franklin H. Murrell, U. S. vice consul in Naples, who formerly lived in Los Angeles. These doughboys returned immedi-

Soviets At Vistula In Warsaw Drive

Two Giant Battles Reaching Climax Near Bialystok and Lwow; Germans Fleeing

Bulletin

LONDON, July 26—Soviet troops have captured Narva, big Estonian port on the Gulf of Finland, Marshal Stalin announced tonight in a special order.

LONDON, July 26—Soviet armies reached the Vistula River today in their drive for Warsaw as two giant battles neared a climax at the Polish cities of Bialystok and Lwow.

A Soviet communique announced that Red armies had completed encirclement of German forces defending Lwow and were engaging the Nazis in furious fighting at the "immediate approaches" to Bialystok.

Northeast of Bialystok, Russian forces were within 26 miles of the south border of East Prussia in a new drive which threatened to outflank thousands of Germans fighting west of the Niemen River between Kaunas and Grodno.

[The German News Agency announced the Russians had opened a great new offensive east and northeast of Kaunas in Lithuania. A Russian advance from Kaunas, 75 miles east of Tilsit and 140 miles due east of Koenigsberg, to the Baltic Sea would cut off an estimated 40 German divisions in the Baltic states. Moscow did not confirm the report but in the past German announcements of developments on the eastern front have been confirmed 24 or 48 hours later in special orders from Marshal Stalin.]

The Russian communique also reported that Soviet troops had cut the Dvinsk-Riga railway in Lithuania.

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German Satellites Reported Staging Rallies For Peace

LONDON, July 26—With total mobilization of public and private industry in Germany and the Nazi dominated countries of Europe ordered by Adolf Hitler last night, satellites of the Reich today were reported seething with revolt.

Great peace demonstrations were held in Bucharest and Sofia and the Rumanian and Bulgarian cabinets were meeting in secret session, according to the Stockholm newspaper Nya Dagligt Allehanda.

Reich Minister of Propaganda Goebbels was expected to broadcast to the people of Germany and outline his plans as Trustee for Total Mobilization for War, to which job he had been appointed by Hitler at the suggestion of Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering.

The mobilization decree directed the Trustee to "see to it that all public events are in line with the aim or total mobilization and do not take away any forces from the Wehrmacht or armament industry."

The trustee was further ordered to "examine the whole state of administration, including Reich railways, postal services and all public establishments, institutions and undertakings, with the purpose of freeing a maximum of manpower. To do this, the decree continued, "men and materials must be used rationally and to the last. Tasks of lesser importance must be stopped or reduced and organization and procedure simplified."

The German Overseas News Agency said that it was probable that Goebbels would "act with radi-

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Battle Of Privies Ended In Pacific

WASHINGTON, July 26 — The Battle of the Privies has ended.

According to Columnist Drew Pearson, the Navy has promised to refrain from racing its destroyers through a narrow strait between two islands where wakes from the warships knocked the stilted from under Army privies perched along the shorelines.

An official order—signed by the Commander in Chief of the Pacific, the Commander of the South Pacific, and the commander of a destroyer squadron—declared:

"Unless urgency demands, vessels of this squadron will not use speeds in excess of 25 knots in Blank Strait. It has been observed that the wake from this speed gives Army privies built out over the water a good flushing without damaging them.

"The practice of painting a hash-mark under the picture of a privy on the bridge of the ship—representing each privy knocked down—will be discontinued."

Archbishop Spellman Holds Mass In Field

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, July 26—Five thousand American soldiers today attended a military field mass conducted by Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of New York, now touring 5th Army installations.

Archbishop Spellman said he had conducted mass from the Aleutians to India, but his reception today at an American division was the biggest he had ever received. In an impressive ceremony, 3,500 Yanks received communion.

Conferring with 30 Catholic chaplains of the area, the Archbishop declared that of each ten U. S. Catholic priests of all ages, one is a chaplain in the Armed Forces.

Argentina Reported Charting Campaign To Divide Americas

WASHINGTON, July 26 — The Argentine government evidently gave up its latest drive to win diplomatic recognition of the United States and turned instead to charting further moves designed to split American nations unified against it, the Associated Press reported today.

A verbal clash between Washington and Buenos Aires is in immediate prospect, it was said. The Argentine regime is scheduled to explain its position in recalling Dr. Adrian Escobar, its ambassador, to Washington. The United States and cooperating nations are due to define anew their attitude to the Argentine administration based on the contention it has followed a course harmful to the United Nations in their struggle with the Axis.

The object and final judge of the contentions of both sides is the Argentine electorate, said the Associated Press. Washington's view is that it is up to the people themselves to decide whether they want to continue to be ruled by a government ostracized by its neighbors.

The United Nations and most other American republics have not recognized the Edelmiro Farrell regime since it came into power early this year. Once Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile and Ecuador extended some degree of recognition but recently when the U. S. withdrew Ambassador Norman Armour, the four countries also ordered their ambassadors home, thus restoring a united front of the United Nations against the Farrell regime.

Argentina persisted in the hope of a reversal of American policy until yesterday when Secretary Cordell Hull said the American governments had agreed upon a statement of non-recognition.

Russians Approve New Polish Group

LONDON, July 26 — The Soviet government gave its stamp of approval today to the new Polish Committee of National Liberation formed in Moscow and announced that it was willing to work out an agreement with the committee relative to future relations between Poland and the Soviet Union.

In London, however, the Polish Government-in-Exile branded the creation of the Moscow committee as "a move by a handful of usurpers to impose upon the Polish nation a political leadership which is at variance with the people."

The Russian declaration to the Moscow Polish Committee said that present military operations in Poland had but one aim: To wipe out the German army and help the Polish people restore an independent and democratic Poland.

The announcement added that Russia has no intention of setting up a Soviet administrative body in Poland and no desire to acquire any Polish territory, nor to alter the social structure of that country.

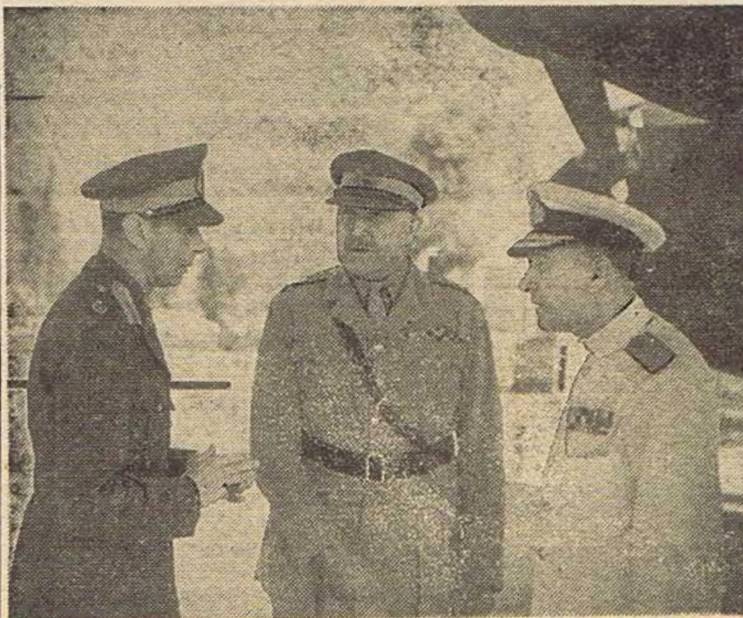
Academy Appointments Offered 5th Army Men

WASHINGTON, July 26 — Congressman Henry M. Jackson, of Washington, who did a brief stretch in the Army before President Roosevelt ordered him back to the House, has not forgotten the GIs.

Drew Pearson, writing in his Washington Merry-Go-Round column, revealed that "Jackson, like all members of the House and Senate, is constantly plagued with requests for West Point appointments. This year, however, he has a new wrinkle in appointments to the military academy. He has written to Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the 5th Army, offering appointment to any enlisted man of the 5th Army whom General Clark selects—but he must be an enlisted man."

"Rep. Jackson asked General Clark to select that man who best exemplifies in character and performance the American doughboy of World War II. Vice President Henry Wallace also selects some of his West Point appointments from the ranks of enlisted men."

TALKING THINGS OVER



KING GEORGE VI discusses the war in Italy with General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Commander in Chief in the Mediterranean and Admiral Sir John D. Cunningham, Commander in Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet. The King is currently on a tour of the Italian battlefield. (RAF official photo)

King George VI Heads For Excursion To Front

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, July 26—King George VI, after an inspection of Allied war shipping in Naples Harbor, had left by plane today for a visit to the fighting fronts of Italy.

Although for security reasons the itinerary and time-table of the King's trip are carefully guarded, certain details of his actions in the past few days can now be revealed.

After viewing the harbor at Naples Monday in company with top ranking naval officials, he boarded the personal plane of General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson—a converted C-47 named "Freedom"—and flew over the Anzio beachhead en route to an airdrome near Rome.

Monday night King George roughed it, sleeping in General Sir Harold Alexander's trailer beside a beautiful lake before heading for the front.

Increasing crowds throughout Monday showed his presence in Italy was no longer a public secret. In fact some Italian admirers even posted signs on the walls of the Naples Navy House saying "Long live the democratic King who has ejected the fascists."

Before leaving on his trip to the front King George made a hurried

change from the dress uniform of an admiral to a field marshal's outfit. Correspondents said the rugged travel schedule he was following would have been the envy of even Mrs. Roosevelt.

King George visited this theater once before when he toured North Africa and Malta last June. He was in France for a first hand view of the front in 1939 and again last month when he visited General Bernard Law Montgomery's Normandy headquarters.

Heavies Out Over Austria, Albania

MAAF HEADQUARTERS, July 26—Heavy bombers of the 15th AAF today bombed military installations near Vienna and an oil refinery at Berat-Kucove, in Albania.

Bad weather obscured the targets at Vienna. Bomber crew members and the escorting fighter pilots reported several victories in encounters with enemy planes.

Oil smoke was seen after the bombing at Berat-Kucove, last attacked by the heavies last Sunday.

1st Lt. James S. Varnell, Jr., a Mustang pilot, of Charleston, Tenn., shot down his 16th plane today to clinch runner-up position for air victories in this theater. Leading the field is Major Herschel H. Green, Mayfield, Ky., with 17.

Reconnaissance photos today showed that heavy bombers yesterday "virtually destroyed" the Hermann Goering tank works at Linz, Austria. The entire target area was reported cratered by bombs, several of which exploded inside the rolling mill. The main foundry was hit several times.

American Better Soldier Than Enemy, Says Walker

NEW YORK, July 26—Maj. Gen. F. L. Walker, former Commander of the 36th Infantry Division, told the press yesterday that "I've observed our soldiers in battle on the Italian front over a period of ten months and I'm convinced our soldiers are better than the Germans."

General Walker declared "our soldiers are more cheerful, more confident, and are better marksmen. After having seen our men going through the hardships of last winter during which they were subjected to almost continual rains, mud, cold rations and continual artillery and mortar fire, maintaining a cheerfulness far superior to the enemy, I feel confident they are capable of being made into the best soldiers in the world."

General Walker was en route to Fort Benning, Ga., where he will be commandant of the Infantry School.

"The 36th Infantry Division is a great outfit, and I hated to leave,"

Tropic Chocolate Bar Won't Melt In Pocket

JERSEY CITY, July 26 — After the war look for chocolate bars that won't turn to goo in the pocket of your summer suit or run down your chin.

The Army says its tropical chocolate bars which melt at 120 degrees instead of the usual 85 will undoubtedly be on the civilian market in peacetime through the southern states and in summer up north.

The bars are made of chocolate, skim milk, cocoa, oat flour with flavoring and vitamins. The mixture can not be poured but must be compressed in molds.

The taste and texture is the same as that of the now popular bars, says Army Services Forces.

'Don't Relax Now,' Stimson Tells U. S.

WASHINGTON, July 26—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said today that Germany was shaken and "shot through with doubts" by the three-sided Allied attacks in Europe but there is no collapse in sight and no excuse for relaxing on the home front.

Mr. Stimson in a radio address said there is much talk of a quick victory through German collapse but "such collapse is not yet apparent to our men locked in combat with a brutal, resourceful and stubborn enemy."

"Our enemies, Germany and Japan, have set a standard of existence in which military power is the one thing their twisted minds can recognize and measure. As long as they have any reason to believe they can maintain a degree of equality in that regard they will fight hard and tenaciously but when they see they are about to be completely overpowered, when that fact is physically and unmistakably carried to their doorsteps, then and only then will they collapse."

Mr. Stimson, who returned from a tour of Italy and Normandy, said troops in the field were the most efficient, aggressive and most potentially powerful force on the ground, on the sea and in the air that history has seen.

"Few of us would recognize in these skilled, relentless fighters as the product of our homes," Mr. Stimson added.

Training Plan Begun For Governing Japan

WASHINGTON, July 26 — Army and Navy officers have started a training program designed to prepare them for military government duties in territories taken from the Japanese, the War Department announced today.

The initial group has completed a six-week indoctrination course in the School of Military Government at the University of Virginia, and will begin a six-month course next Monday at Yale, Chicago and Michigan.

Jap War Tactics Due For Change, Says Admiral King

WASHINGTON, July 26 — Admiral Ernest J. King, Navy Commander in Chief, said today that the new Japanese cabinet will change the enemy's war tactics and expressed the hope that the change will bring "cooperation" by the Nipponese fleet in a showdown naval engagement.

"Undoubtedly the Japanese will continue to wage the war with all the power they possess but we can expect some change in their method," he said. "Whether it means they will go more on the defensive and withdraw to inner citadels or rather become more aggressive remains to be seen."

Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal and Admiral William F. Halsey Jr., the latter back from the Pacific for short conferences in Washington, sat beside Admiral King as he asserted that the Tojo cabinet obviously fell because of the dissatisfaction by Japanese military leaders with the conduct of the war.

"There is no aid and comfort to be gained in the composition of the new cabinet," Admiral King said, explaining that it was made up of military leaders.

Secretary Forrestal reported that American casualties in Saipan were 3,040 killed, 13,049 wounded and 365 missing. More than 5,000 of the wounded are already back in action on Tinian Island, he said, where the same troops that conquered Saipan are fighting.

The Japanese casualties on Saipan totaled 20,729 dead, buried by American troops, and 1,717 prisoners of war. Also 14,192 enemy civilians were interned on Saipan.

Secretary Forrestal said casualties on Guam were "moderate and those of the enemy heavy."

The Navy Secretary commented that the three islands of Saipan, Guam and Tinian were the "key with which to unlock the door to Japan, the Philippines and the coast of China." These islands cover 300 square miles and contain eight airfields and five harbors within striking distance of Japan.

Dewey Did His Best To 'Protect' Dewey

WASHINGTON, July 26 — A Democrat did his best—which wasn't enough—to "protect" the name of Republican Presidential Candidate Thomas E. Dewey at the mass sedition trial yesterday.

Democrat Defense Attorney Claude A. Thompson rose in oratorical wrath when Assistant Prosecutor Joseph Burns began to read to the jury a treatise entitled "Dewey: Presidential Impossibility."

"I'm a southern Democrat," Attorney Thompson shouted, "but I'll protect my Republican brothers against this attempt to smear the name of the illustrious Governor of New York." "Dewey: Presidential Impossibility" went on the records anyway.

The pamphlet, written by Robert E. Edmondson, one of the 26 defendants, was read by Assistant Prosecutor Burns, who explained that he wanted to show that the defendants were "against the political system of the United States—against Republicans and Democrats."

Memorial Service Held For General Roosevelt

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., July 26—Twenty-five soldiers who had fought under him served as honor guard at the memorial service held yesterday for the late Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., who died of a heart attack in Normandy on July 12.

A gathering of more than 700 people completely filled the small Christ Episcopal Church in the former home town of Gen. Roosevelt, and a number seated on the lawn heard the service through loudspeakers set up on the grounds.

Rev. John N. Warren, Rector of the Parish, held a simple Episcopal service for the son of "T. R." who had seen action in North Africa and Italy before joining the 4th Infantry Division in England.

New War Weapons Emerge From Nazi, Yank Scrap Pile

FREDERICK, Md. — Remember the tanks that burned at Kasserine and those jeeps sprawled in crumpled heaps at Randazzo, after hitting German land mines?

They're back home now, what's left of them, along with all the shell casings from the Cassino barrage and the wreckage of airplanes. Enemy materiel, too. It's all part of a huge junk pile, which in time will be melted down and used to turn out new weapons of war.

This salvage operation has been expanded rapidly by the army until now it's a multi-million-dollar business. The "overseas salvage segregation center" here, one of seven in the country, sells 180,000 dollars worth of salvage parts and reclaimable junk each month.

But there's one dangerous twist in salvaging war wreckage, explained Lt. Vincent C. Hopkins, an ordnance officer. Some of the wreckage is still loaded. One good-sized live explosive dropped into a steel mill's blast furnace could cause millions of dollars worth of damage, he pointed out.

One time two live torpedoes were discovered in the great pile of wreckage which once had been guns, tanks, trucks, jeeps and airplanes.

So before each giant claw of junk is hoisted into a waiting railroad car, its load is carefully inspected by an army ordnance man. Almost every day he comes up with some "hot stuff."

The explosives are carted away to isolation. Small ammunition no longer usable burns with a dull "ping-ping" inside a thick concrete furnace.

The scrap is used as ballast for ships returning from the war zones and then shipped to the segregation centers. The Frederick center sprawls over 23 acres of ground. Headquarters is a converted roller rink. Hundreds of tons of the war wreckage lie in long piles between six railroad yards cutting across the yard.

Four derricks and one small shifter railroad engine do the heavy work and a complement of some 70 civilians, 12 men and three officers do the rest.

Proposes Federal Health Clinics

WASHINGTON — Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, chief naval surgeon, has proposed that the government provide health clinics to help build a physically fit postwar American youth.

Admiral McIntire, who is President Roosevelt's personal physician, also advocated overall medical and hospital insurance in a paper submitted to a Senate subcommittee investigating health and education.

The hearing opened with the reading of a prepared statement from Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, who suggested that the presently recorded physical or mental incapacity of 5,000,000 men between 18 and 37 for military service was due in part to lack of a proper educational system.

He suggested the system be adjusted so that teachers, parents and officials realize that a normal child "should reach a standard physically just as much as he should be able, at a certain age, to add or subtract or read."

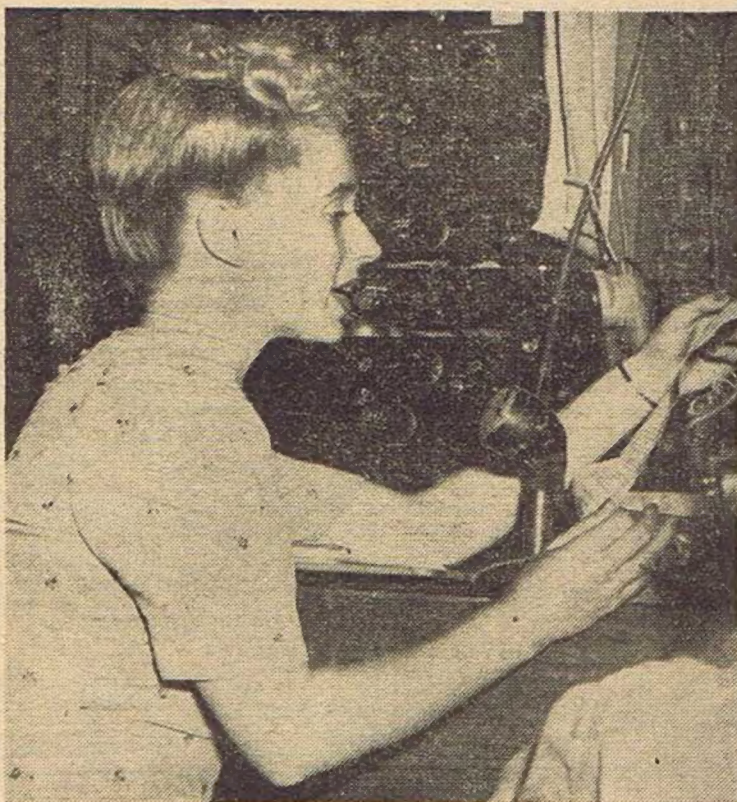
Landing Crafts Ready For Any Shore Task

WASHINGTON — Landing craft required for any shore to shore or ship to shore invasion in any part of the world are now ready for U. S. armed forces, the Navy Department disclosed this week.

Constructed in 15 major types, after models proved in previous combat experience, the invasion craft are hitting the water at the rate of almost 200,000 tons monthly, or more than three and a half times last year's output.

The present program to put more fighting men ashore more rapidly on enemy lands all over the world contains a Congressional allotment of 100,000 invasion vessels with a gross weight of some million and a half tons.

'SALLY, MEET GINNY'



NAZI SOLDIERS IN ITALY are hearing from the Allied counter-part of "Sally" these days. She's Virginia Robinson, Virginia-born Broadway actress who came overseas as a USO entertainer. In her excellent German she gives out with the sweet talk to homesick Krauts, sandwiching her speeches between nostalgic musical numbers on a program broadcast over a U. S. Army radio station. Fellows, meet "Toni from America." (Acme)

Kid 'Bon-Bon Racketeers' Put The Touch On GIs

LONDON — GIs in Normandy some of whom had never been to North Africa or Italy first, are being subjected to a merciless beating by the "Bon-bon Racketeers," reports Hal Boyle of the AP.

The racketeers are the kids of liberated France who have been starving for candy and gum for four years. Quickly observing that every American soldier is a walking arsenal of sweetmeats, the youngsters have rigged up a system which Boyle says has the GI at their mercy.

The streets in freed French towns have been zoned off by the kids with the finesse of a Dutch Schultz—only it's bon-bons, not beer, that nobody better try to muscle in on.

The kids work in shifts, two on and four off. One leans out the window, another stands at the curb and both hail passing convoys with fingers uplifted with the "V" sign—old stuff to Tunisian and Salerno veterans. The midget moll, shaking her curls and making like Shirley Temple, usually has the best take.

Best of them is one with a fat little red face and brown bobbed hair who toddles out on the sidewalk each morning in a pretty white dress, carrying a little box under her arm. As the trucks pass by, she smiles like an angel and looks much too sweet to get up the nerve to ask the boys for anything—and so, of course, she's showered with gum and candy.

When the last Life-Saver hits the sidewalk and the trucks are out of sight, she drops the front and scrambles, box in hand, for the catch, the winsome smile a deep frown of concentration for the job at hand.

Most ingenious of the "gangsters" are those who jump out on the road in front of a convoy and begin shouting, "Boche! Boche!" The convoy skids to a stop. When the GIs find out the whole thing is a

gag, they are so grateful they give with the bon-bons.

MP Sgt. Francis R. Kress, Buffalo, N. Y., told Boyle sadly, "I don't know what these kid'll try next. Maybe they'll start building roadblocks."

HOME BRIEFS

United States Rubber Shortage Finally Licked

NEW YORK—Harvey S. Firestone, Jr., president of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, announced here Wednesday that the rubber shortage has been "licked," but the tire situation will continue critical for some time because of the manpower shortage.

Firestone said the tire industry is now completing a 100,000,000-dollar plant expansion program to meet the shortage of machinery.

"However, the most serious problem yet to be solved is that of manpower," he said. "A few expert tirebuilders are being released by the armed forces, but many more men are needed on the production line."

Rudy In Reserve

LOS ANGELES—Rudy Vallee, radio and motion picture band-leader and singer, has been placed on the inactive list by the Coast Guard as a lieutenant in the reserve. Clark Gable, recently placed on the inactive list by the Air Force after two years of service, will resume acting in the fall, Metro Goldwyn Mayer announced.

Farmerette

WASHINGTON—Miss Florence Hall, director of the Women's Land Army, reports that women make



just as good farmers as men, adding a word of warning for city girls: "Farming is not the kind of job you can go into while killing

Postwar Industry Outlook Confused

NEW YORK, July 26—The picture of postwar employment is neither black nor white but a sort of neutral gray, the Committee for Economic Development reports.

The committee, including such men as Charles E. Kettering of General Motors; Philip Johnson of Boeing Aircraft and Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, has voluntarily surveyed the prospects. It's flattest statement is that postwar industry is a tremendous maze of cross-currents in which the fight for markets, the advances in technology during the war, the gap in civilian production during the war and the dislocation of labor make any conclusive predictions about the world to come impossible.

Several of the committee's conclusions point to the prospect of large pools of unemployed in some cities; in others, small pools; and in some, a labor shortage.

Vegetable and fruit growers in Bradenton, Fla., said they would need 1,831 more workers after the war than in 1940. When the CED asked every family in the country what they planned to buy on or after Victory Day, here were the answers: Out of 628 families, 314 expected to build homes at a cost of a little over a million dollars; 623 wanted new cars; 583 wanted radios and 537 wanted kitchen stoves.

In Philadelphia, the committee found that 100,000 extra workers will tour the city when peace ends the great shipbuilding program. Portsmouth, N. H., which employed 2,400 in its prewar shipyards, will have no jobs for 21,600 of its present 24,000 shipworkers when peace comes.

Against these pessimistic signs, Janesville, Wis., says it will need 332 more worker after the war, and Streator, Ill., intends to spend more than a million dollars on new factories and facilities. Baldwin Locomotive says Europe will need 20,000 new locomotives after the war, but

admits Europe won't have the money to buy them. Westinghouse counts on a 484 percent increase in the use of electric washers in the first postwar year and 1,100 percent in five years—which should not gladden the laundryman's heart.

Spam's creator expects to lose 1,855 workers when the "demand" for "Spam" goes down, but Mr. Hormel is thinking up ways of keeping them on.

Assembling all these straws in the wind, the committee still failed to make any hay out of its survey—and the postwar employment problem remains a problem.

Gas Output Rises Ickes Announces

WASHINGTON — United States aviation gasoline production has increased 930 percent since 1941, Harold L. Ickes, United States Petroleum Administrator, reported this week. At the same time Mr. Ickes pointed out that the enemy is suffering an increasing curtailment of oil resources because of Allied bombings.

Mr. Ickes reported that the United States production of aviation gasoline promises to reach a total of 196,000,000 barrels in 1944 as against 19,000,000 barrels in 1941, 48,000,000 in 1942 and 101,000,000 in 1943.

The increase in the production of gasoline for the use of bomber and fighter planes is being matched in the crude oil and petroleum field. The daily average of 3,654,000 barrels of crude oil produced in 1942 has been increased to a daily average of 4,600,000 during the first half of 1944.

These figures, it was pointed out, are the answer of the United States to a German statement that the American oil supply is diminishing.



LEATRICE WEDS

movie days and the late screen idol John Gilbert, has married Pvt. George Arthur Hoover. The wedding took place in Westwood, Calif.

Film Star Back

NEW YORK—Robert Montgomery, former movie star, now a Navy lieutenant commander who served on a destroyer in the invasion of Normandy, arrived here yesterday en route to Los Angeles to spend two weeks with his family. He said the invasion was "one hell of a show."

Fair's End

NEW YORK—The New York World Fair of 1940, Inc., listing a principal debt to stockholders of 19,069,764 dollars and unpaid interest of 439,000 dollars, yesterday filed petition for final dissolution with Queens Supreme Court.

Refugees Land

PHILADELPHIA — The Portuguese ship Nyassa docked here this week with 100 passengers on board, 75 of them Jewish refugees from Palestine, Egypt, Iran and Spain. Passage for the refugees, many of whom had been in Nazi concentration camps, was made possible by the Hebrew Sheltering Immigrant Aid Society, unofficial organization with headquarters in New York City.

Hey, Taxi!

NEW YORK—To summon a taxicab in Glasgow, Scotland, you walk to a little box at a street intersection, pull a lever and pretty soon along comes a cab. Ronald Good, 17-year-old Scottish seaman, wanted a taxicab after a night out, saw a little box at Broadway and 38th Street, pulled the lever and got the strangest taxicab he'd ever seen—a big, red, open-air job with a bell, a bunch of passengers wearing helmets and a cabbie who was less than polite. In night court Magistrate Rothenberg suspended sentence on Good, commenting that for the first time in his career on the bench, he'd come across a false-alibi alibi he believed.

Buzzer

BOWMAN FIELD, Ky. — Lt. Roger M. Lewell, 28, of the Army Air Forces, was fined 2,000 dollars and denied promotion rights for a year by a general court martial because he buzzed his home town of Corning, Iowa, during a practice flight.

Gilbert Kin Weds

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—Leatrice Joy Gilbert, daughter of former actress Leatrice Joy of the silent

THE STARS AND STRIPES (MEDITERRANEAN)

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...MAIL CALL...

Cinema Kites

Dear Editor:

A staff officer of a certain field artillery group supporting the FEC on a visit to Fifth Army rear echelon, was determined to line up a movie for his artillerymen.

There was a time element and the ok of his CO which he couldn't get until he returned to his outfit, involved.

Plans were accomplished anyway with a special service company for two liaison "grasshopper" planes to settle down on a specified landing strip at a prearranged time to pick up an operator and impedimenta.

It turned out the CO thought the idea a good one and all men who could be spared from the gun pits and the like were invited. A large room in an unoccupied villa was made suitable so about 700 GIs laughed and enjoyed the first movie they had seen for over three months, showing "True to Life," starring Victor Moore.

Besides being a headache to the German artillery and being used for air courier message service, the "cubs" have now entered the morale field.

—Maj. D. W. Bingham

Well, Aren't We?

Dear Editor:

We have a question we wish some one would answer. The question is:

"Just what the hell are we fighting this war for?"

We hear of American soldiers being ordered to salute a Nazi officer. And the Nazi returns with his "Heil Hitler." Did we fight for this?

We read of Italian prisoners of war in the States being sworn into our own Army, given the same ratings, the same pay. All because they so very conveniently voiced a hatred of Nazism and Fascism. Are we fighting for that?

If this continues are we to look forward to the questionable honor of being told to bow to all Japanese. Are we fighting for that?

Or are we at war? Are we fighting for freedom? Is it freedom for us? Or freedom for the Nazi, the Fascist?

For our part they can send them all where only a good Nazi and a good Fascist goes: Straight to blazes.

—T-Sgt. Pickard
T-Sgt. Cobb
S-Sgt. Arelio
Sgt. Owens

On Guardsmen

Dear Editor:

On reading your July 13 issue, we were surprised to read the letter of T-5 Childers, rebuking the cadres of the 85th and 88th for making corrections of statements that we, the cadre, were guardsmen.

I noticed no remarks of disrespect for the guardsmen in the correcting statements, and don't see why the guardsmen can't give honor where honor is due. It is true that guardsmen as well as regulars did a lot of tough fighting before either the 85th or 88th entered the picture. At the time of the invasion of North Africa, however, we regulars were training new men to fire the rifle and other weapons. Maybe you would like to be relieved by men with only one to six months service. Personally, I wouldn't. I think we did a very good job of training those men for combat.

It seems that the 85th and 88th, and French, cracked the Gustav Line that held the old-timers for so long.

We hope this is a letter to end letters.

—T-Sgt. Jodie B. Hardage
Sgt. D. W. Rabb

... I am sure the article we read didn't mean to belittle the National Guardsmen. We don't want to brag about our time in combat or in fox-holes, we just want to get this damn war over with and go home. If he is looking for an argument, he's looking in the wrong place. We were drafted to help win a war and I don't give a damn what the N. G. think; I know we're doing a pretty good job. Hereafter, I would advise Cpl. Childers to think before he voices his views because he's only making a damn fool of himself.

—Sgt. Arthur Weiner
S-Sgt. Stanley Kucwaj
Pfc. Chick Grestini
Pfc. Bill Welch

Form 6001

Dear Editor:

In your Wednesday, July 12 edition of Stars and Stripes in "Lost and Found," Cpl. Herbert D. Anderson reports losing a wallet containing a 400-dollar money order.

I am enclosing an application for money order (form 6001—Editor), which states that the maximum amount for which a single money order may be issued is 100 dollars. Wonder how Cpl. Anderson managed to get one for 400 dollars? (64-dollar question).

—Cpl. George Ward

Pup tent Poets

Sonnet

Sheathe the dark sword; let it grow fast with rust;
Leash up the martial hounds; let them not wake
With howls again the sleeping peaceful; take
The fearsome casque and fling it in the dust.
You who have suffered, rest; and you whose tears
Have flooded the still hours of sleeping, sleep
Now without sorrow, and, fallen guardians, keep
No more your ghostly vigil—darkness clears.

Let her be yours—let her dark, soothing streams
Blot out the sick last horror, and erase
The mask of hurt and sorrow from your face:
There are no more alarms to break your dreams.
Sleep now forgetful. We who yet remain
Shall not with wars violate your sleep again.

—S-Sgt. Kenneth C. Crabbe

Nightfare

The moon hung by a silver thread,
A star blinked its drowsy eye,
The dusk of evening slowly spread,
And I hungrily dreamed of pie.

Lemon meringue with that certain tang,
The filling two feet through,
And, I thought, if chocolate's brought,
A five-pound hunk will do.

That fragrance rare, it fills the air;
(I dreamed of butterscotch),
I reached my hand to snatch the pan,
But tightened my belt a notch!

There, on parade, like Mom had made,
I saw with gleaming eye—
Raisin, mince, deep apple, quince,
And coconut, a story high.

I swear I felt sweet rhubarb melt,
Rich cherry brought wild glee,
But... utter rot... all that's forgot
GI puddin's best for me!

—M-Sgt. Otto Davis



By Sgt. RALPH G. MARTIN

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

RED OAK, Iowa—When you walk around this town in the late afternoon and see all the people sitting on their comfortable looking porches, swaying slowly back and forth in their rocking chairs, snoozing in the sun; and when you wander over to the park in the center of the square and listen to the inconsequential gossip of the people on the benches—then you're tempted to say:

"Hell, these people don't even seem to know that there's a war going on."

But that's one thing nobody can say about Red Oak. Because Red Oak, probably more than any other small town in America, has been hit hard by the war.

To most of the American people now the battle of Faid Pass in Tunisia on February 17, last year, is something far away and long ago; something that smacks of ancient history. But to the 5,476 citizens of Red Oak the story of Faid Pass seems fresh and bitter, as if it happened almost yesterday.

It was at Faid that the Krauts cut off large sections of the 168th Regiment of the 34th Division.

When the "missing in action" telegrams from the War Department first started filtering into town everybody who had a son or a husband or a brother in Company M of the 168th slowly wandered over and stood in front of the Western Union Telegraph office.

There Were Three...

Mrs. Mae Stifle, who raised four sons and four daughters by working 14 years in the Hotel Johnson, got two telegrams within 15 minutes of each other. Her two sons, Pvt. Dean and S-Sgt. Frank, were missing. Next morning there was still another telegram. This time it was her son-in-law.

The tension of not knowing whether "missing" meant "dead" lasted for three months. Then finally word came through. With few exceptions all were prisoners.

If New York City's losses were proportionately the same as Red Oak's it would have meant a casualty list of almost 20,000 soldiers in a single action. And even then, the shock wouldn't have been so great, because here in Red Oak every name meant a certain house on a certain street.

It wasn't long before the parents of the prisoners got together to exchange information about their boys—discussing whether or not it was a good idea to send dehydrated soups or chocolate or warm winter clothing in the 11 pound packages; discussing the Red Cross prisoner of war bulletin telling which Nazi camp gives the best treatment; talking about how the boys all got together and made popcorn one night in Stalag III B, not too far from Berlin.

'Don't Worry'...

They always say: "Don't worry about me, Mom. I'm all right."

And the folks tell about the new babies who are born and all the old folks who die, and how the Boy Scouts and 4H girls help out on the farms. They also mention the news about the boys' buddies—how the War Department just awarded the Silver Star to Pfc. Howard Koenemann, who wasn't captured in Tunisia, but who died fighting in Italy.

"I remember that Koenemann boy," said Mrs. Ella Pine Miller, the gray haired "Mrs. Chips" of Red Oak, who first began teaching here in 1919. "He was such a good natured boy, but he was so terribly scared of arithmetic."

To Mrs. Pine the names on the casualty lists are not dirty, bloody, bearded GI Joes. They're still ruddy-cheeked little kids in the class room.

Another woman who knows most of the boys is Miss Jeanette Winters, the town librarian. She remembers Darrel Durphey, a serious-faced, fat boy who always read military books.

And John Halberd, who used the library as a dating hangout. "I always had to keep my eye on him because his favorite trick was to turn out the lights long before closing time. He never did finish school—he never will, now."

UP FRONT...

By MAULDIN



"They had a mania for destruction, General. Every elevator cable in town is cut."

New Mobilization Decree May Be Final Nazi Bid

The extraordinary decree whereby Adolf Hitler ordered the total resources of Germany and the occupied or annexed countries of Europe be mobilized for war well may be considered as a last desperate bid of the Nazi hierarchy to retain control of their crumbling empire.

Total mobilization of Germany has been ordered before. Eighteen months ago such a directive was issued following the German disaster at Stalingrad. It is reasonable to assume that since that time all material and manpower reserves of the Nazis have been well tapped.

The latest decree, to be administered by Propaganda Minister Joseph Paul Goebbels as Reich Trustee for Total Mobilization for War, apparently has for its objective the diversion of all private and public business in the Nazi dominated countries as well, in furthering of the Nazi cause.

The ostensible excuse for the extraordinary powers given to Dr. Goebbels was the unsuccessful attempt on the life of Hitler last week and the determination of Nazi leaders to suppress as long as possible any internal revolt which would bring an end to the Nazi regime.

Practically, however, the decree was the outcome of the succession of military defeats by the German armies in Russia, Italy and Normandy and their psychological effects on the peoples of Germany and the satellite countries.

Commentators throughout the world have emphasized that the attempted revolt within Germany was organized by a small clique of military leaders. Allied and neutral analysts have hailed an apparent falling out between the military and political leaders of the Greater Reich. At the same time, it should be noted that there was no such disagreement in the earlier years of the war when the military prospects of Germany were bright and the possibility of Nazi domination of a

Combat Correspondent Killed Near Montecatini

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, July 26

—The first 5th Army soldier-reporter casualty was disclosed today with the news that Pvt. Lyn C. Walton, 20, Arlington, Va., a member of a Division Public Relations Section, was killed in action near Montecatini on July 9.

Pvt. Walton was with an infantry company when the unit was subjected to heavy shell-fire by German artillery. Formerly classified as an advance scout, Pvt. Walton was appointed combat correspondent about four months ago. In civilian life he was sports editor of the Alexandria, Va., "Gazette." Prior to his last trip to the front, he had declined assignment to a rear area.

Draftee Substitute Snafus Operation

NEW YORK—This is the sad, sad story of John Wroblewski, who was too smart for himself.

John had his 18th birthday recently. And on that day he was supposed to register for Selective Service.

This did not make John happy, so having read in history books that substitutes were hired during the Civil War, John talked a 15-year-old friend into registering for him.

The friend is a very healthy guy who is also very patriotic, so when he registered as John Wroblewski, he made a very favorable impression on the draft board. Not long after, he came back and applied for immediate induction following his physical.

Only he didn't tell John Wroblewski.

Because the friend is so healthy, John figured he better take the physical himself when the order came through for him to report. So he did—and he passed.

This wasn't good, but John figured he still had three weeks to mull things over before they'd call him or rather his friend, up. Only he didn't know about his friend's enthusiasm, so when the order came to report to Fort Dix immediately for induction, John broke down and confessed the whole thing.

That was the wrong thing to do, because he was arrested on charges of draft evasion and held under 1,500-dollar bail until he complies with his draft board's orders.



ABOVE: Three patrolling infantrymen of the 5th Army are wary-eyed as they take positions near the Arno River in historic Pisa. Across the river, the Nazis still hold part of the town.

LEFT: Pvt. Joe E. Medina of the 5th Army has found his own dogrover in Pisa. The uniform is strictly hot weather, not GI, and the new recruit goldbricks all the time, says Pvt. Medina.

RIGHT: She was the only girl in Pisa, so Cpl. Charles W. Nicola, who found her when he entered Pisa, holds her hand gently.

Patrol Could Hear Nazis Talking, But Didn't Savvy

(By a Staff Writer)

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—It's too bad that none of the three Americans who crossed the Arno River into German territory couldn't understand German. If they had "capish Kraut" as Pvt. Robert Rothacker of Chicago and San Francisco put it, our intelligence today would know just about all of Jerry's plans for the defense of the river.

Led by S-Sgt. Fred Crane, Fresno, Calif., the trio from A Company came so close to the enemy on his own ground that they heard Nazi soldiers whispering among themselves. As it was they penetrated 500 yards beyond the river bank past the low cut canebrake which the Germans appear to be turning into a field of fire.

"We walked across through waist-deep water," said Pfc. William E. Short, Camas, Washington. "It was a bit touchy all the time but we didn't get into trouble once."

The patrol entered the Arno at 0130 hours and crawled through and around the German mines for three hours. All the men were veterans of other patrols, and Pfc. Short's right arm still bore a fresh scar from a machine pistol bullet which hit him several days ago.

"We were mighty lucky to get by without drawing fire," Sgt. Crane declared. But the patrol leader's burly physique, gained by years of driving piles, indicated that he could take care of himself with more than his weight of Jerries. He and his men were under orders to hold their fire unless it was ab-

solutely essential for them to shoot their way out. But not one of the 270 tommy gun cartridges they carried ever left a clip.

While Sgt. Crane and company were stepping through the cool river, another trio attempted another crossing farther up the stream. Sgt. Walter F. Bennett, Queets, Wash., probed the German defenses for several hundred yards in his sector but "they had too much for us so we had to return."

A full-blooded Clallam Indian, Sgt. Bennett is well known throughout his regiment for his ability to use an expert huntsman's tactics on tracking down the enemy. When his company is on the offensive he directs a light mortar squad which knocked out three German machine gun nests within a few minutes last week.

With Sgt. Bennett were Pfc. James E. Odle, Modesto, Calif., and Pvt. Robert Green, Philadelphia. Both said they could hear Germans talking across the river in their entrenched positions which included machine gun nests.

Yanks Capture Four Mighty Scared Krauts

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, ITALY

The orders had been to set up the 60 mm. mortar on a slope behind the house, and S-Sgt. Wendy D. Felton, Ortonville, Minn., squad leader of the First Armored Division, sent Pvt. Thomas G. E. Campbell, McKeesport, Pa., to report that the orders had been carried out.

It was dusk and as Pvt. Campbell passed the house a light caught his eye. In the shadows, with their backs to him, stood two German soldiers.

Pvt. Campbell drew his .45 and yelled "Halt!" although the Krauts weren't going anywhere at the moment. They spun around, reaching for their guns, but came to the platoon CP quietly after looking down the barrel of Pvt. Campbell's pistol.

Back at the house Pfc. Roger J. MacKecknie, Rockford, Ill., and Pvt. Bernardino Jacques, Houston, Texas, fired through the door, tossed hand grenades and searched every room.

In a hay mow in the barn side of the house they found two nervous Nazis—nursing their eardrums.

Stan, The Donut Man, Returns To Front Lines

By Pvt. ROBERT MEYER

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—Almost any day now, the men up front will see a bright red three-and-a-half-ton truck roaming about the forward area. They'll probably think the circus has come to entertain them, but in reality it will be their old friend Stan, the Donut Man, in his new improved mobile unit.

Almost every soldier in these parts knows Stan. His full name is Stanley Anderson, Dumont, N. J., and he was sent overseas by the National Doughnut Organization to organize a mobile unit for the American Red Cross during the Tunisian campaign. When that job was finished he was free to return to the States; but he would have none of that. He's been at the front ever since.

It's not revealing military secrets to report that Stan has been distributing between 7,000 and 8,000 do-nuts a day, or that he expects to boost his daily output to 15,000 when the new machine goes into operation. Because in the lines Stan doesn't ration do-nuts. He

also gives a bonus of one dozen to every Yank who captures a Jerry.

Stan and his aides-de-camp, Pvt. George Boucher, Detroit, Mich.; Pvt. Al Oser, Brooklyn, and Augustina Marchini, Italy, were putting their newest outpost into shape, and as they bustled themselves about the shop Stan recited a tabloid version of his travels.

"This town wasn't quite as hot as the one we were in the other day," Stan reported. "Or maybe we just waited longer to move in here. In the other town the machine-guns were still manning their guns at each corner of the block where he set up. It was just too good a spot to pass up, though—a regular night club with red and white checkered cloths on the table, a radio and phonograph with Italian records."

"I wouldn't be anywhere else but right up front as long as the war is on. Man, I went into Rome with the troops and expected to move out with the first ones. I was there 13 days and gave away 300,000 do-nuts, but I was glad to get the hell out of there."

In addition to being the front-line Do-nut King, Stan also looks after other physical comforts of soldiers. He frequently sets up tailor shops and laundries, selling civilians the idea of working for the soldiers so the men can rest. He also rounds up local barbers and helps set them up in business for the benefit of GIs.

"I suppose I eat as well as any general in the Army," Stan continued. "The men are always bringing me fresh fruits, vegetables, eggs and chickens. They've also brought me so much wine—the GIs idea of the gift supreme—that I've lost my taste for it."

Some soldiers lounging around the shop, happily dunking doughnuts in hot coffee, suggested that Stan should be given some sort of decoration for the job he has done. They weren't quite sure what the decoration should be, maybe just a special medal struck off and inscribed "To Stan, the Do-nut Man, for his unexcelled frontline service."

Stan only said, "Listen, Joe, there's just one decoration that I'd like to receive. That's the Infantry Combat Badge. If I could legitimately receive one of those badges I'd be the proudest man in Uncle Sam's service! Anybody want any more do-nuts?"

This GI Was True To His Teeth, Even Though They Were False To Him

By Sgt. LEN SMITH

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

This is one story of the Mediterranean campaign with teeth in it—eighth of them mine.

Along with some store teeth that filled in various gaps they did all right during those dim, distant civilian days. They were scattered, but all uppers—two way back on the left side; one all alone and out of sight on the same side; two right in front with which I could play life-of-the-party by imitating the hare in those animated cartoons, a diversion from trying on ladies' hats, and the other three distributed back on the right side.

It was during the days when Allied troops were rounding up hordes of enemy prisoners on Cape Bon that one of the teeth in what is professionally called my denture, came loose. I was with an air force outfit then, way up front and far from dental laboratories that could have corrected the defect in a matter of a couple of hours. But I suffered along with a missing store tooth until last July. Then I went to see the dentist.

The dental officer was kindness itself.

"These two flug-nagel teeth (I'm not up on dental terminology) are going to give you lots of trouble," he advised, as only Army Dental officers can advise. "My suggestion, since we have to send the denture to the laboratory anyway, is to take those two out and have a brand new denture made that will give you years of service, and with a savior's portman that will allow you to taste your food and enjoy eating once more. Now, open."

The extraction didn't hurt a bit. I was to come back "in a few days," when an impression would be made for this new, marvelous denture and all would be well.

"In a few days," however, I was

on my way out of that outfit on transfer, with my old denture jumping all over my mouth because it was now without the traction afforded by the two "flug-nagels," but wasn't I going to the very seat of all Army wisdom in



this theater? There'd be laboratories galore there.

It was now early September. The Dental Officer of the Day was kindness itself, but his appointment book was heavy.

"I can give you an appointment for Oct. 9," he told me, "We'll make you an excellent denture."

I went away content, back to the office to find travel orders sending me to Italy.

It was now early December. Everybody in the Station Hospital was kindness itself. They couldn't do enough to make my aching back comfortable. Then one day the dental officer came alongside my bed.

"I've heard you have a tooth problem. Open. Hum. You need a new denture. Now these two spanish teeth are going to give you lots of trouble," he advised. "Now my suggestion is that you let me take out those two teeth and have a brand new denture made that

will give you years of service, and we can make the latest savior's portman that will free your palate and allow you to taste your food and enjoy eating once more."

The words were reminiscent. I stopped him. "But will I be here long enough? Will it be finished . . ."

"In a few days, and you'll be here to get them. Now open."

The extractions didn't hurt a bit. But the next day I found myself on a hospital ship enroute back to North Africa, where, the dental staff apologized, I'd find the best-equipped laboratories, eager and waiting to finish my job for me. By now, my eight teeth had been reduced to four—all far from contact with anything requiring more chewing than vegetable hash.

It was now early January. At last I was out of hospitals and back on the job at the old stand. I went to see the dentist.

He was kindness itself. He wanted me to have the best.

"Let me give you some advice," he began. "Now those back teeth are too loose to hold a denture. My suggestion is that you let me take out those four teeth and have an entire plate made that will give you years of service . . . Now open."

It was early March. Cassino hadn't fallen yet, but all my uppers had, and everybody was kindness itself—even the outfit wag, who, on being told I'd lost all my teeth, replied: "Keep your mouth shut and no one will notice it." But the Army worked at top speed, and I got me a top plate with which I munched carrots and GI beef on the first day.

It is now July, and I'm having a little lower teeth trouble. Hold your hats, here we go again.

20,000 Drinks-- All On The House

By a Staff Writer

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—It's on the house when Cpl. Donald E. Bodle, Brainerd, Minn., serves up the drinks. And the house dispenses plenty of drinks, too, 20,000 or more gallons every day.

Located by a muddy creek on flat ground cleared recently by a bulldozer, Cpl. Bodle and three assistants are open for business 24 hours a day at their two-hose station, making sure that their division has plenty of drinking water.

One of four water points in the division sector, this unit pumps the water from the creek through a mobile chlorinator and filter and into a canvas tank holding 3,000 gallons. Then trucks pull up to one of the outlets and fill their five-gallon cans or water trailers.

With Cpl. Bodle are Pvt. John S. O'Brien, Kansas City; Pvt. Frank Ericson, Iowa, and Pfc. Lewis Baldrey, Kansas, who also doubles as cook. The quartet lives an isolated life in a tent near their water.

Even at night when business is slow, the water tenders can't forget work. One man must be on hand to answer calls and to make chlorine and Ph tests on the water every half hour.

"I've never been able to find what Ph means," Bodle admitted, "but I don't care as long as it comes out all right. Anyway, our water is as pure as anybody's. Have a drink."

She Had Plenty Cash, But Starved To Death

BOSTON, July 26—Miss Elizabeth Joyce, 82-year-old recluse, had three bank books showing deposits of 6,000 dollars but died of starvation in a 14-room house. Police found the body and said she had apparently been dead for two months. Her bankbooks were under the carpets.

The police entered the house at the request of a cousin, Frank Joyce, who told reporters his cousin had lived in the house for 70 years taking boarders until 25 years ago when she retired into her prison-like quarters and never left the house.

LEND ME YOUR EARS

BY JIM BURCHARD

ROME, July 26—The other day we got to wondering what would happen if Frank Sinatra suddenly appeared in Italy as a USO performer.

Would sentimental Roman maidens hear The Voice and go mad with ecstasy? Would they emulate their American sisters, roll up their eyes and go out of this world with palpitating bosoms? Would the swoon crooner be hailed as the greatest Italian heart throb since Rudy Valentino took off from south Italy for Hollywood?

There was one way to find out. In the interests of indoor sport, we summoned five Roman maidens of assorted ages and sizes and informed them they were about to receive the thrill of a lifetime. Then we sat them in front of a victrola and triumphantly produced such noted Sinatra recordings as, "She's Funny That Way," "I'll Be Around" and "You've Got A Hold On Me."

Admittedly, the famed swoon crooner was not there in person. But that was a minor item. The Voice—the vocal magic that flattens a million bucks and twice as many gals a year—would be sufficient.

Now came the big moment. After arranging fresh water and spirits of ammonia on a convenient table to handle all emergencies, and inserting a new needle, the haunting,



plaintive moan of The Voice filled the room. He sang, "I'm not much to look at—," those words which draw anguished shrieks of "No, No, No" from American swoon addicts.

So what happened!

Signorina Assunta Crocetta, luscious dark-eyed wench, picked up her mop and said, in Italian: "A good voice. Now I must return to my work."

But hold, we implored Signorina Crocetta. She had heard only a few words. Give The Voice a chance. Surely she was beginning to feel dizzy with emotion; surely she needed one good whiff of ammonia.

Signorina Crocetta politely listened. Strain our eyes though we did, we could not detect a single palpitation of her bosom. No exclamation of "Oh, my aching back," burst from those lovely lips. She merely toyed with a loose strand of her mop and looked bored.

Signora Clara Parri and Signorina Juliana Lauchari tapped time with their feet and began to discuss a cooking recipe. Signorina Gisella Houser said, "Do you have that piece, 'Home On The Range'?" Signorina Elena Calo muttered, "Oh, Oh!"

"Ah," we said to Signorina Calo, "you feel the power of The Voice. You are thrilled."

"No," replied Signorina Calo, "I have a cramp in my leg."

As the fourth record was played, the ladies became restless to the point of mutiny. The Voice was going great guns on "A Lovely Way To Spend An Evening" when the mutiny became an actual fact.

"This is very silly," said Signora Parri. "If I don't get at my ironing, you boys will be wearing dirty clothes. Your Signor Sinatra has a nice voice, but not enough volume. Why, one of our neighbors downstairs, the man with the rooster, can sing better. Perhaps you should write about him to those radio people in America."

It was hopeless. Obviously, the Roman maidens just could not appreciate The Voice. Perhaps they were just non-swooners. They fled from the room, jabbering in Italian while the great Sinatra kept singing to nobody in particular.

Some day we shall experiment again. Perhaps Freddie McGurgle, rendering his beautiful ballad, "It's Always Catfish Stew," can bring the Signorinas to their knees in a good old-fashioned swoon. At any rate, we wouldn't advise Frankie to try his luck over here.

Lem In Rough Shape After Kayo By Lane

NEWARK, N. J., July 26—The condition of Lem Franklin, Negro heavyweight from Chicago, was described as "pretty poor" at Newark City Hospital. Franklin was removed to the hospital after being knocked out by Larry Lane, Trenton, N. J., Negro, in the ninth round of a scheduled ten-round bout in Meadow Brook Bowl.

Dr. Herbert Conner said X-rays revealed Franklin had a serious brain concussion and partial paralysis of the right arm and right leg. Lane's blows, plus the fall, he said, were responsible.

Pro Boxing Returns To Rome On Sunday

ROME, July 26—The fine art of organized fisticuffs will return to the Eternal City Sunday with a five-bout benefit show for Italian patriots at Arena Quattro Fontane. Promoter Steve Klaus, formerly of Pittsburgh, has lined up a tasty card featuring a ten-rounder between Roberto Proietti and Bruno Bisterzo, a couple of Roman lightweights. Proietti, 22, formerly held the Italian title, but dropped it to Mario Gualandri two days before his wedding. Gualandri now is in Milan. Proietti is the proud papa of a three-month-old boy, and Promoter Klaus is the godfather.

This will be an All-Italian show starting at 6 P.M. Ringside tickets are one dollar, fifty cents a throw, with other seats at one buck and still others at 50 cents. The supporting card will feature one eight, two six and one four-round bouts. Tickets can be purchased at the Arena Quattro Fontane, Via Delle Quattro Fontane.

The Italian Patriots' Organization looks after destitute countrymen from liberated territories. They roll into town with no cash, no place to sleep and empty stomachs. Promoter Klaus hopes to realize enough money from this boxing show to take a good many patriots out of the bread line.

Speedy Filly Seen Reaping Top Honors

NEW YORK, July 26—Calumet Farm's sensational filly, Twilight Tear, apparently is a cinch to win "horse-of-the-year" and three-year-old championship honors, turf followers indicated following a review of bangtail performances throughout the racing season.

When the speedy miss galloped to her 11th straight victory in the recent Arlington classic, she not only added to her record as top three-year-old lassie of the year, but established a good claim for leading honors in her division. Finishing after her was Pensive, stablemate and winner of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness.

Although Twilight Tear's 1944 earnings of 128,790 dollars do not match Pensive's 167,975 dollars, the filly has done everything asked of her this season. If she is voted the ranking honors, it will be the first time one of her sex made the grade.

Gordon Is Hot Stuff Against MP Pitchers

SANTA FE, N. M.—Joe McCarthy's shortstop worries continue, but not so with the Camp Luna, N. M., Airtrancos, thanks to a former Yankee, Joe Gordon.

Since joining the Airtrancos, the flash has been playing shortstop, hitting spectacularly and fielding like a demon. In a two-game series against the Santa Fe MPs, Gordon, batting in the cleanup spot, collected eight hits in 11 trips to the plate.

The ex-Bronx Bomber had three for six in the first game, won by the Airtrancos, 22-16, and boasted a perfect five-for-five in the second tiff, also won by Camp Luna, 16-6.

Manush Gets It

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., July 26—Tommy Richardson, Eastern League president, announced that Heinie Manush, former big league great now managing the Scranton Red Sox, had been suspended indefinitely for failure to pay a 50-dollar fine imposed on him.

KAYOED AT KEYSTONE



ROY CULLENBINE, RIGHT FIELDER of the Cleveland Indians, is forced out at second plate in a bit of hot action at Yankee Stadium, New York. The Yankee keystone warrior, George Stirnweiss, is tossing to Nick Etten at first to complete the double. The Yanks won, 4-0.

Ol 'Diz Still Fogs' Em, But Now It's Just Hot Air

By Sgt. GEORGE SLOCUM

(Special to The Stars and Stripes)

ST. LOUIS—One thing that makes baseball magnates love radio sponsors so much is the generally accepted belief that broadcasts of ball games direct from the park will rekindle the flame of interest that lies dormant in the hearts of some of the old-time fans and encourage them to come out to the park more often.

But in St. Louis, the broadcaster, one Dizzy Dean, puts on a show that keeps the fans glued to their radios. So picturesque and almost risqué are some of his remarks that the fans get more pleasure out of the Dizzy-isms than they would out of watching the game.

STILL JUST BALLS

Jim Tobin's "flutterball" and Rip Sewell's "eephus" ball have come in for a lot of attention from the press and broadcasters. Indeed, many announcers and writers have consulted their dictionaries and physics textbooks for words to describe the trajectory of these "slower than slow" pitches.

Great discourses have been delivered on the psychological effect on batters, managers, players and everyone concerned. That sort of stuff ain't for Ol' Diz though. He dismissed Tobin's flutterball one day with: "Folks, I just can't see how he gets it up there. Seems to me he must just goose it along."

In the days when mention of the weather was forbidden on the air, the rugged individualist in Dean rebelled, but he kept within the law with such sage observations as: "I ain't allowed to tell you why the game's been called, folks, but if you'll just look out your window, you'll find out." Another time Dean ventured the opinion that the umpires ought to call a temporary halt to proceedings with this observation: "I don't know why time: 'They've stopped the ball game folks, after all that ain't sweat that's runnin' down the pitcher's face' and still another time: 'They've stopped the ball game and I ain't allowed to say why. But I sure hope the little woman remembered to pull them windows down at home.'"

SAME OLD DIZ

One time Dizzy was describing a game wherein the pitcher, although getting his brains knocked out, continued to stay in there and bear down with every pitch. This prompted the Great Man to pay the highest compliment at his command. "He's a great pitcher just like me," Dean said, "plenty of guts."

Occasionally a pitcher can get something past an umpire but he has to get up pretty early in the morning to fool Dizzy. You can't fool an old fooler, or words to that effect. Dizzy once told the fans that he caught Larry French, then pitching for Brooklyn, using a spit ball. "Folks, if you could see how Mickey Owen throws that ball

back, you'd know something was up. But he can't throw it back fast enough to fool old Diz."

Another time he described how Bobo Newsom was scuffling the dirt in front of the pitcher's slat with his spikes. "He's just tryin' to confuse the 'empire' so he can get a little nearer to home plate before he throws the ball," Dizzy informed his listeners, "but he ain't gonna get away with it."

Dean, the baseball announcer in that case, was probably speaking as Dean, "the Voice of Experience."

Cuban Star Returns To Nats—Or Draft

WASHINGTON, July 26 — Gilberto Torres, one of the Cuban ball players owned by the Senators who returned to his native land last week, is ready to come back to the Nats and take over his third base position. There are prospects, however, that Torres will soon be wearing the uniform of the U. S. Army.

The 26-year-old star had been enjoying a good season with the Solons until Selective Service caught up with him, canceling a previous exemption. The third sacker and his wife returned to Havana and settled his business affairs. Now he's coming back to play ball and register for the draft. Roberto Ortiz and Fermin Guerra, other Cuban stars, are undecided about future plans.

HERE'S THE PAYOFF...

Q. Did Joe Louis ever defend his heavyweight crown against the same fighter twice?

—Sgt. John P. Conway

A. Joe Louis fought Arturo Godoy two times and also filled two engagements with Buddy Baer.

Q. Who holds the best accepted record for the 880-yard and the mile runs?

—Pfc. James Davitt

A. Elroy Robinson ran 880 yards in 1:49.6 and Glenn Cunningham holds the mile record at 4:6.7.

Q. How many years did Roger Peckinpaugh manage the Cleveland Indians? Please list the years.

—Lt. Frank Gardner

A. Peckinpaugh guided the Tribe from 1928 to 1932. He began the '33 season but was replaced by Walter Johnson. Again in 1941 Peckinpaugh took over succeeding Oscar Vitt.

Q. Did the University of Tennes-

Jake Wade's Hurling Features White Sox Defeat Of Senators

NEW YORK, July 26—Near perfect relief pitching by Jake Wade plus a 14-hit attack on Mickey Haefner and Alex Carrasquel gave the White Sox a 9-6 triumph over the Senators in Chicago. After the Solons had cuffed Bill Dietrich for nine safeties and six runs in five innings to tie the game at 6-6, the bespectacled twirler was removed for a pinch-hitter and Wade replaced him, hurling hitless ball and walking only one batter in the last four frames.

The Dykesmen tallied two runs in the last half of the fifth giving them an 8-6 lead and handing Dietrich the triumph. Haefner was charged with the loss, allowing 11 hits in four and one-third innings.

Big Jim Tabor, who has been out of baseball for the greater part of the year with an injured leg, returned to his third base post and poled out four hits to lead the Red Sox to a 7-3 victory over the Tigers at Detroit. Tabor climaxed a perfect day at the bat with a homer in the ninth.

BOSOX BELT APPLE

The Bosox made 16 hits for a total of 22 bases off Rufe Gentry, Johnny Gorsica and Zeb Eaton, sewing up the fray in the fifth with a four-run rally on hits by Lou Finney, George Metkovich, Pete Fox, Bobby Doerr, Tabor and Skeeter Newsome. Yank Terry coasted along behind his lead until he weakened in the seventh, when the Bengals scored their runs.

Pirate batters had a field day making 20 safeties to defeat the Giants, 15-0, at the Polo Grounds. A big second inning accounted for nine runs with Pete Coscarat and Vince DiMaggio chasing five across on round-trippers. Rookie Bobby Barthelson and Frank Seward bore the brunt of the Buc attack.

Max Butcher gave the Giants six scattered hits and not one of Mel Ott's boys reached third base. Coscarat and Jimmy Russell each made four bingles while Bob Elliott, besides homering in the ninth, drove in six tallies.

The Cubs chalked up five runs in the third inning off Tom Warren to beat Brooklyn, 14-6, at Ebbetts Field. Warren was lifted after the uprising and was replaced by Ralph Branca. Charley Fuchs and Hal Gregg completed the Dodgers' pitching parade which yielded 18 hits. Red Lynn started for the Cubs but was lifted in the fourth when the Bums scored three runs on six hits. Hank Wyse finished up and got credit for the triumph.

ROOKIE TRIUMPHS

Rookie southpaw Arnold Carter pitched Cincinnati to a 6-2 victory over the Braves at Boston behind a barrage of hits that included two homers, a triple and four doubles. The victory was Carter's sixth of the campaign and he aided his own cause with a circuit wallop in the sixth.

Max Marshall hit the other homer in the same inning off Ben Cardoni, who had held the Reds to one bingle for the first five frames. The Reds tallied two more in the seventh and the final markers in the ninth. Boston collected nine hits off Carter, three by Tommy Holmes, and scored one run in the first on Charlie Workman's double and a single by Abe Wright. Workman also tallied in the ninth on Phil Masi's wallop.

see play in four bowl games in successive years?

—Sgt. C. Crone

A. No. The records show the University of Tennessee played in the Rose Bowl in 1940; the Cotton Bowl in 1941 and 1943. They failed to receive a bid in 1942.

Q. What is assumed to be the record for daily wagering at a race track and how large was the crowd?

—Pvt. James Carey

A. On Labor Day of 1943, 48,774 racegoers poured 2,926,702 dollars through the mutuel machines at Aqueduct for the record.

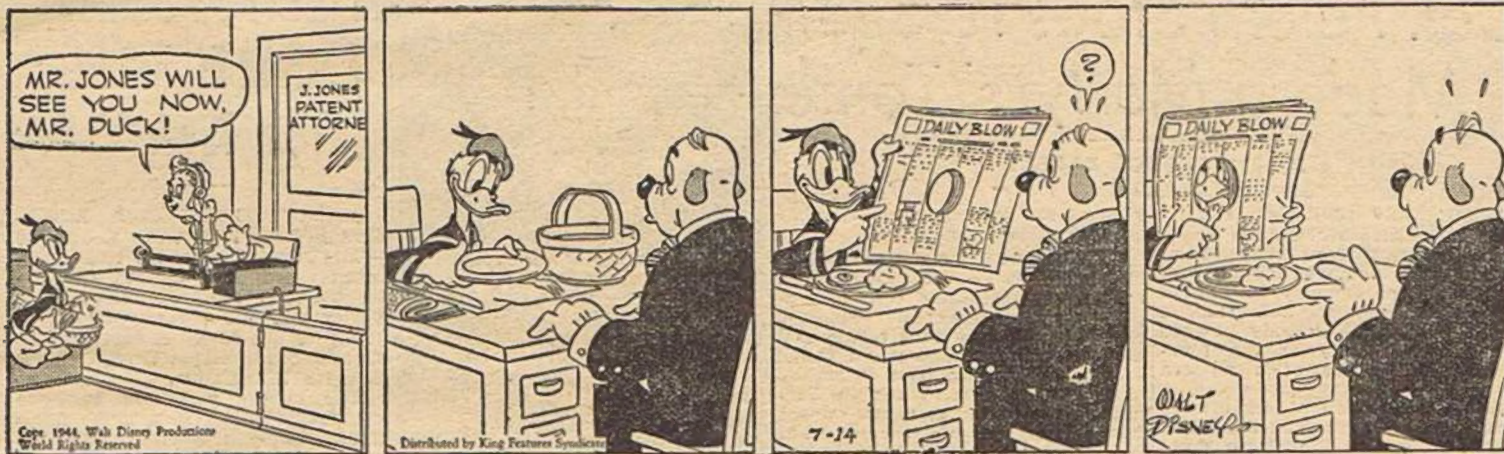
Q. How did the gate receipts for the Tunney-Dempsey fight compare with those for the Louis-Conn scrap?

A. Gene Tunney and Jack Dempsey fought before a crowd which paid 2,650,000 dollars to see the battle. Louis-Conn gate receipts were 451,743 dollars.

DONALD DUCK

(Courtesy of King Features)

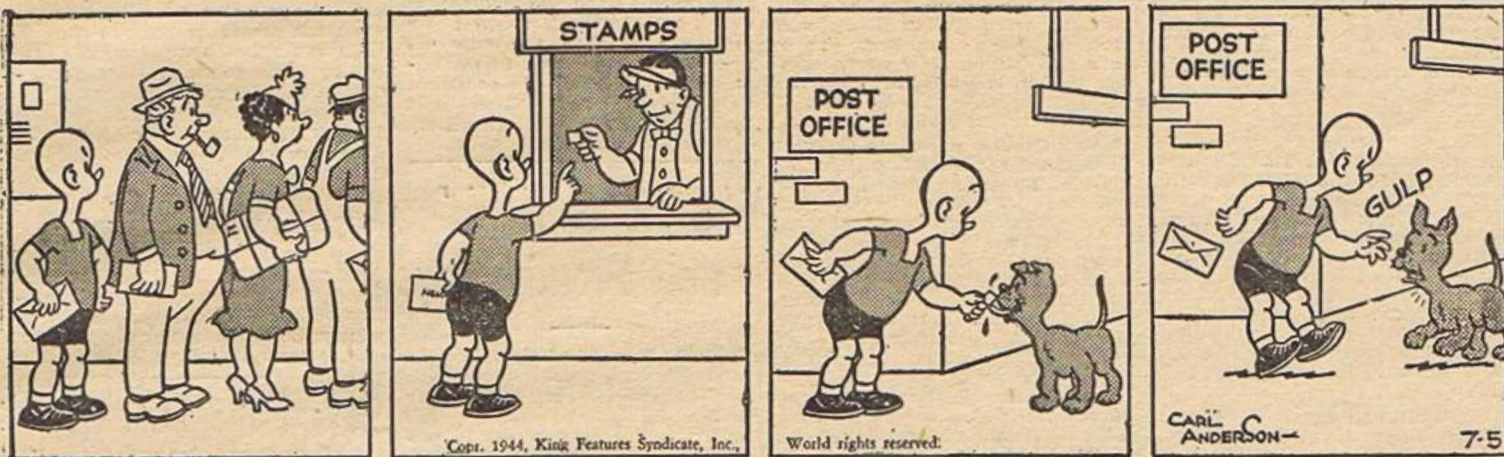
By WALT DISNEY



HENRY

(Courtesy of King Features)

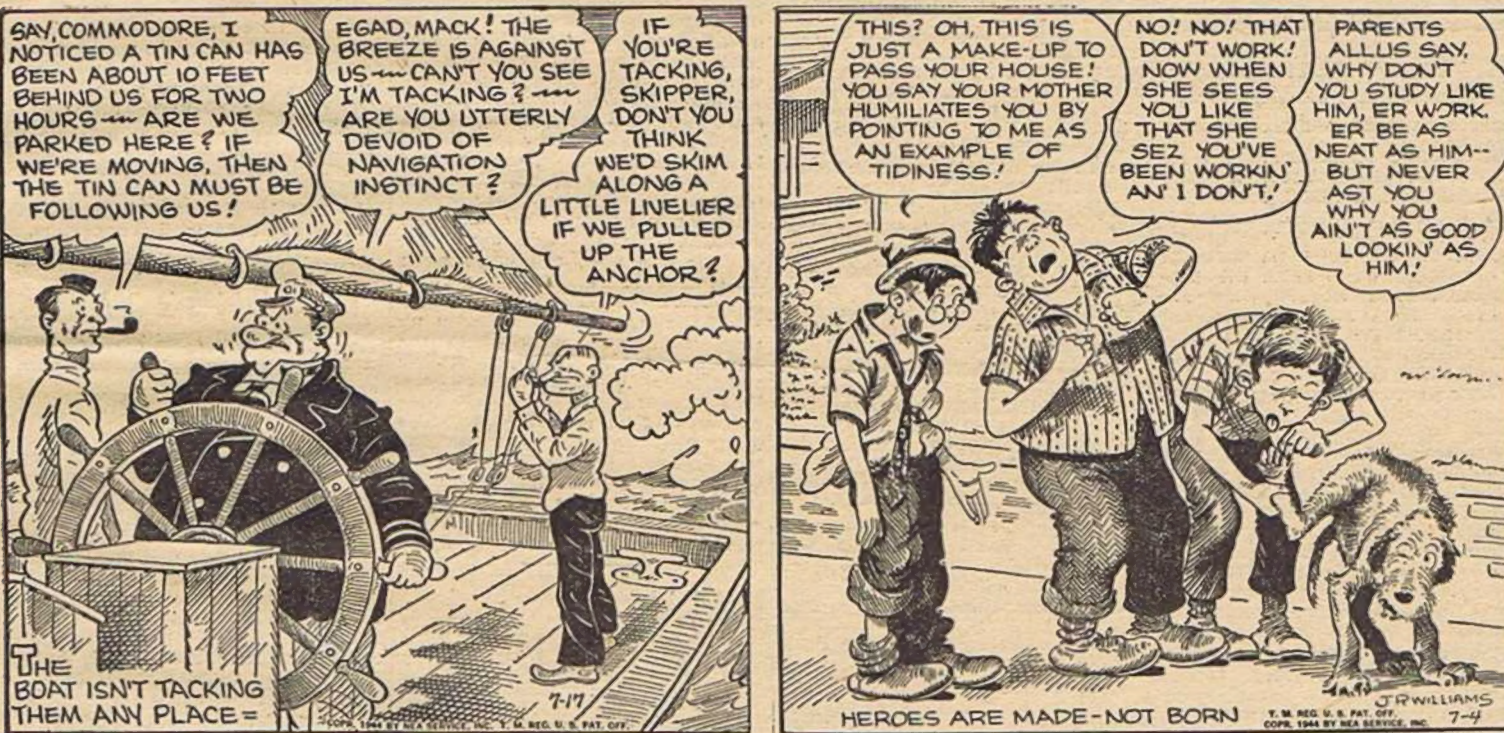
By CARL ANDERSON



MAJOR HOOPLE

(Courtesy of NEA)

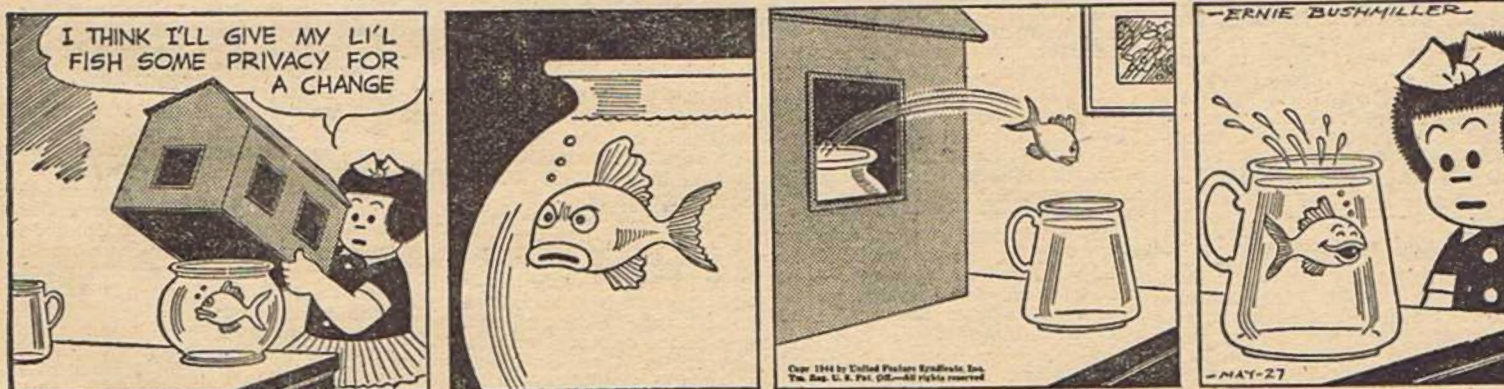
OUT OUR WAY (Courtesy of NEA) By WILLIAMS



NANCY

(Courtesy of United Features)

By BUSHMILLER



BLONDIE

(Courtesy of King Features)

By CHIC YOUNG



WHAT'S COOKIN'

Today

"Eve On Leave," ENSA musical comedy at 1830 hours; Argentina Theater, Largo Argentina. No tickets required.

ENSA Super-Cinema, Via Vinale and Via Agostino Deprepis; "Hit Parade of 1943," continuous performance beginning 1230 hours. Last performance about 2000 hours. No tickets required.

Red Cross Movie House, Piazza Barberini, performances at 1500, 1700, 1900 hours, "Rose of the Rio Grande."

Augustus Theater, Corso Vittorio Emanuele; continuous performances 1000 to 2000 hours, "You're A Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith."

"Come And Get It," a revue of 14 scenes, will be presented by ENSA at the Argentina Theater, Largo Argentina, one night only, Saturday, July 29, at 1830 hours. Guest artist will be Zara Lammari.

Polish Club, open 1300 to 2100 hours, 255 Via Panisperna.

GI Restaurants open 1130-1430 1800-2030 hours:

Ristorante Roma, 38 Piazza Poli.

Ristorante Amedeo, 17-19 Via Fabio Massimo.

Restaurant for American Officers, Nurses and uniformed guests; open 1130 to 1400 and 1730 to 2030 hours-- 7 Via Parma.

Ristorante San Carlo, 120 Corso Umberto.

American Officers' Club open 1630 to 2200. Dancing. Rupe Tarpea, 13 Via Vaneto.

Air Forces Rest Camp Restaurant-- Largo Theater Vale, 1100 to 1930 hours.

RADIO PROGRAM

MOBILE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY STATION Fifth Army

PM

1:00--News (BBC)

1:15--G. I. Jive

1:30--Music We Love

2:00--Yarns For Yanks

2:15--Great Music

2:30--The Juke Box

3:00--News (BBC)

3:15--Songs Out Of The West

3:30--Major Bowes

4:00--Radio News Reel (BBC)

4:15--Are You a Genius?

4:30--News (CBS)

4:45--Three Cats and a Canary

5:00--The Rhythm Club

5:30--5th Army Military Band

6:00--World News (AFRS)

6:15--Fred Waring Show

6:30--Front Line Theater

7:00--Aldrich Family

7:30--Frank Morgan and Baby Snooks

8:00--Ole' Oaken Bucket

9:00--News Headlines

9:05--Bing Crosby Show

9:30--Spotlight Bands

9:45--News

10:00--Village Store

10:30--One Nite Stand

11:00--News

11:15--Musical Tour

11:55--News

12:00--Sign Off

LAFF-A-DAY



Labor Unions Adopt Seniority Formula For Returning Vets

WASHINGTON, July 26 — The Congress of Industrial Organizations and American Federation of Labor have agreed with Veterans of Foreign Wars to grant job seniority rights to returning veterans on the basis of one month's seniority for each month served in the Armed Forces after Sept. 1, 1940.

The agreement was embodied in a statement of general policy on postwar relations between labor and veterans announced yesterday by VFW's National Commander Earl Y. Schoeninger, Detroit.

While the declaration of policy is not necessarily binding on individual unions in the AFL and CIO, it will be recommended to them, and labor representatives expressed confidence that it would be adopted.

The agreement also provides that qualified skilled veterans will be entitled to union membership at prewar initiation charges and at the current dues rate; affirms labor's right to organize and bargain collectively; and declares that a disabled veteran unable to hold his old job should be given consideration for other work by his former employer.

The seniority formula is applicable in local unions where work assignments are based on employees' length of service, and covers men who never held a job prior to entering the service or those who worked but did not belong to unions.

Thus it would be possible for a youth who entered the Navy or Army and learned a trade to enter a union job with full credit for his military service after Sept. 1, 1940.

Unions already have established a policy giving seniority credit for military service to former members of unions.

Omar B. Ketchum, representative of VFW, said the American Legion was invited to participate in the conferences but reported it was unable to do so. Although United Mine Workers, Railroad Brotherhoods, and other independent unions did not take part, Ketchum said they probably would be asked to adopt the same policies.

Hospital Blood Bank Seeks Soldier Donors

An Army hospital blood bank is seeking blood donors from among military personnel in the Rome area.

First Sergeants of units which have personnel willing to donate blood are asked to dial 34540, 377052 or 361655 and ask for "Laboratory."

NAZI SATELLITES

(Continued from page 1)

cal methods which would extend to every sphere of life, very quickly and very thoroughly, not only in Germany but in the occupied countries.

The contention of General Kurt Dittmar, German military spokesman, that "less than a dozen conspirators were liquidated by loyal soldiers and officers of the Army," was contradicted by the Swiss paper Journal de Geneve which declared that "hundreds of German officers of all ranks have been executed."

The Nazi newspaper Voelkischer Beobachter indicated the seriousness of the internal situation when it reported that the number of troops in the regular army was being decreased and the number of Waffen SS troops increased by order of Heinrich Himmler.

BBC announced that 16 German generals who are captives in Russia had signed an appeal to German officers to overthrow Hitler.

Nearly a week after the first German announcement of the attempt on Hitler's life, the German Overseas News Agency said that Field Marshal Model, commander of a German Army Corps on the central Russian front, had sent Hitler a declaration of loyalty.

Meanwhile, the German radio said that Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, Nazi commander in Italy who had been reported by neutral sources as under arrest, was slightly wounded while making an inspection tour of the front lines. Other reports filtering through the Nazi censorship said that Col. Gen. von Schoepfenberg, former commander of German armored forces in France and Col. Gen. von Mackensen, former commander of the 14th Army in Italy, had been purged.

Col. Poletti Stops To See Modern Martyrs' Tomb

By Pvt. GEORGE DORSEY
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

ROME, July 26—Cheap electric light bulbs shed a relentless illumination which filtered through fumigation gases down to the floor of the humid passageway in one of Rome's catacombs. Col. Charles Poletti bent his thick body forward and gazed intently at the four-months-dead bones of a modern brand of martyr.

A greying Italian officer offered him a piece of gauze and the Allied Commissioner of the Rome Area pressed it to his nose to muffle the odor of fumigation and the sickening stench of death. After what seemed a long, hard look at the handiwork of the Nazi-Fascists he had replaced in power, Col. Poletti straightened and turned to the handful of watchers who had stood in uneasy silence while he made his inspection.

'FINE EXAMPLE'

"A fine example of 20th Century humanity," the commissioner said bitterly.

Thus, today, came a new step in the literal unearthing of evidence which spoke mutely of the terror that reigned in Rome during the last weeks of Fascist Republican control. These were the first exhumed of 320 bodies feared entombed in catacombs in the southern outskirts of Rome.

Col. Poletti had already appointed a fact-finding committee of Italian, British and American officials to investigate the atrocity, but felt that he should visit the scene of wholesale murder himself.

The story which AMG police in-

vestigators have pieced together goes like this:

Late last winter a group of Italian partisans decided to make a reprisal against their German oppressors. A powerful explosive charge was placed in a refuse cart along a route in downtown Rome soon to be traveled by a formation of German soldiers. When the Germans came in sight a one-minute fuse was lighted and the partisans faded from the scene. In the ensuing explosion 32 Nazis were killed.

The German command swore revenge, at a rate of ten to one. In March, 320 political and criminal prisoners were gathered up and taken to the catacombs. Their hands tied behind their backs, they were shot in lots of tens. Then the passageway was blown up at each end, converting it into a huge grave.

Pietro Caruso, notorious chief of police during the last months of Nazi-held Rome, is believed to have submitted lists from which the Italians assassinated were chosen. Now hospitalized in jail with a broken leg, Caruso was injured in an automobile accident as he fled from the advancing Allies. He was captured by partisans and turned over to Allied authorities.

SENTENCE OUT

A strange ramification of the case is that Rosario Bentavegna, a young leader of Communist partisans and a key figure among the Italians who ambushed the German soldiers, was convicted last week of slaying an Italian finance guard in the first hours of the Allied occupation of Rome. His conviction was returned over a plea of self defense, but the AMG court held the sentence down to 18 months in view of his anti-fascist record. Communist newspapers decried the conviction, citing the fact that the infamous Caruso was still untried. But Allied and Italian officials have indicated that action would be taken against the former police chief as soon as a complete list of his crimes is compiled.

Italian authorities, meanwhile, are exhuming the bodies in the catacombs as fast as possible, hoping that even in their decomposed stage they will be identifiable. Firemen have been carrying on the excavation work and police, health and medical men are compiling scientific data to help families of the murdered men identify the bodies.

91 CITIZENS

(Continued from page 1)

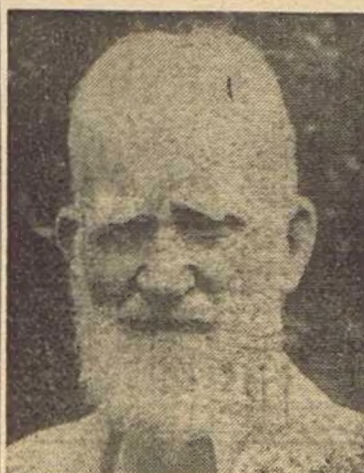
lic, Switzerland, Sweden, the Philippines and Russia.

Only woman and officer sworn in was 1st Lt. Lillian A. McMahon, Boston, who formerly lived in Canada. She was first to be congratulated by General Clark after receiving papers from Mr. Murrell. Saluting snappily she shook the general's hand, saluted again and moved off. Overseas since May, 1944, with an evacuation hospital, Lt. McMahon said, "Naturally it feels grand to be a citizen."

Echoing General Clark's statement that "Your oath did not create your citizenship but merely recognized that you are worthy of this great honor," Pvt. Harry Z. Rosenay, Brooklyn, declared that the feeling "has always been here" and he pointed to his heart. Born in Russia, Rosenay returned to the front five minutes after the last note of the military band had died away.

Pfc. Albert P. Sulik, Cudahy, Wis., had taken out his first papers in the States but "the Army got me before I could go through with it."

IRISH 88



NO GEM of Shavian wit was forthcoming upon the momentous event, but George Bernard Shaw yesterday reached the ripe old age of 88. Although Shaw apparently had nothing to comment on Shaw reaching 88, it was said by others he is as alert and lively as ever.

War Terms 'Hard,' Italy Premier Says

ROME, July 26—Italy's Premier Ivanoe Bonomi, speaking to a gathering of officials of the Italian Foreign Ministry yesterday, said that Italy was determined to prosecute the war against Germany with every means at her disposal. He pointed out that Italy's action was based upon a memorandum attached to the armistice conditions under which the terms would be modified in Italy's favor depending upon the extent of her aid in the war.

Before accepting office he and his colleagues read the armistice terms closely, he said, at the express wish of Allied authorities. They declared then they would accept the pacts in their entirety.

He commented that the armistice conditions were "very hard." He said he had been comforted by a "solemn promise" on the part of the Allies.

"In the memorandum drawn up at Quebec and attached to the armistice conditions, he said, 'we were able to read these words, 'The measure in which these conditions will be modified in Italy's favor will depend upon the extent of the aid given by the Italian Government to the people of the United Nations against Germany during the remainder of the war.'"

Matricide Case First In N. Y. In 100 Years

NEW YORK, July 26—Eighteen-year-old John Peter Safranek, charged with murdering his mother, is believed to be the first matricide in New York County in more than a century. Police claim the youth strangled his mother, Mrs. Dora Safranek, 51, when she found him taking two dollars from her pocket-book.

The boy spent most of his life in a reform school and institutions and police said he admitted bearing a grudge against his mother since she put him in a reform school when he was young.

Lola's Woes

HOLLYWOOD, July 26—Actress Lola Lane said today, "we just couldn't get along," in explaining her planned divorce from third husband Henry Clay Dunham, yacht broker and aircraft executive. She was previously divorced from Lew Ayres, former actor and now chaplain's assistant overseas, and Alexander Hall, movie director.

Nips In New Guinea Retreat Eight Miles From River Valley

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, July 26 —The trapped Japanese 18th Army in northern New Guinea has retreated from the Driniumoor River Valley and is reportedly trying to reform south of Afua, according to today's communique from General Douglas MacArthur.

The enemy was said to have withdrawn to a point eight miles inland along the river, following another unsuccessful attempt to break through the Allied ring.

The estimated 40,000 enemy troops were under constant naval and artillery fire and were bombarded from the air. More than 54 tons of high explosives were dropped into enemy troop concentrations yesterday in the Wewak area alone.

Latest dispatches from the Southwest Pacific declared that American forces which have isolated Japanese troops on the Oroto peninsula on Guam are making good progress.

News of further American activity came from the Japanese News Agency, which quoted an Imperial headquarters communique claiming a strong Allied task force yesterday bombarded Sabang harbor, at the northwest tip of Sumatra.

Slavs Make Landings On Dalmatian Islands

LONDON, July 26—Landing operations on three islands along the Dalmatian coast of Yugoslavia were reported today in a communique from Marshal Tito broadcast by the Free Yugoslav radio.

The islands, clustered just north of the port of Dubrovnik, were Korcula, Mjlet and Peljesac. The communique, which did not reveal the nature of the landing force, said that 70 Germans were killed and 80 captured in the operation.

LEANING TOWER

(Continued from page 1)

Only long-qualified observers using 20-power scopes are informing their headquarters of troop movements in the section of Pisa which lies north of the Arno River just across from the American-held south section.

By late afternoon, self-propelled guns had been reported on the four principal north-south streets. These guns stayed hidden in buildings, coming out long enough only to fire a few quick shots before seeking cover. On the river drive, Jerry was building sturdy barricades and road blocks designed to prevent any force which managed to cross the Arno—200 to 300 feet wide in the city—from reaching the main area of Pisa.

Nebelwerfers, "screaming meemies," have been firing from the town and strongpoints and are known to exist on the bend of the river where they can fire due west into American troops.

Since the first Yank infantrymen entered Pisa Sunday morning, supporting artillery has remained quiet, chafing under orders which placed virtually all of Pisa inside the "no fire line." But Jerry has observed no such control, dropping 120 shells within a two-hour period Monday and maintaining steady fire on the city, road and airport. He also has placed machine guns on the third floors of buildings near the river, zeroed in on the Yanks' north-south streets. Since 1900 hours last night four men have been picked off when they failed to remember that Pisa's streets are off limits.

By AL CAPP

L'IL ABNER

(Courtesy of United Features)

